

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JERUSA 00481 211625Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 /032 W
-----107976 211630Z /53

O R 211540Z FEB 78
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0290

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 0481

FROM ATHERTON, U.S. DEL. NO. 4

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, SY, US, SOPN
SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON ATHERTON ITINERARY

REF: DAMASCUS 0978

1. DEPARTMENT AND WE WILL USE YOUR SUGGESTED PRESS GUIDANCE IF
QUERIED ABOUT WHETHER ATHERTON IS TO VISIT DAMASCUS THIS
TRIP. WE NEED TO DECIDE, HOWEVER, WHAT TO SAY TO DIRECT PRESS
QUERIES AS TO WHETHER VISIT TO SYRIA HAS BEEN DISCUSSED AND
WHETHER SYRIA AGREED OR DISAGREED. FOR REASONS CITED REFTEL,
WE WOULD PREFER TO FINESSE DIRECT REPLY, BUT THIS MAY BE
IMPOSSIBLE. IF PRESSED, WE DO NOT SEE HOW WE CAN AVOID SAYING
THAT QUESTION OF A VISIT HAS BEEN DISCUSSED BUT THAT WE WILL
NOT GO INTO DETAILS OF THE DISCUSSIONS. DO YOU SEE ANY PROBLEMS
WITH THE SYRIANS IN OUR HANDLING THE QUESTION THIS WAY?

2. PLEASE SEND ANY REPLY BOTH TO JERUSALEM AND CAIRO.
NEWLIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ITINERARY, THE PRESS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 21 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation History:
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Review Content Flags:
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Secure: OPEN
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To: DAMASCUS
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Review Markings:
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